

# For the INDUSTRIOUS NEEDLEWOMAN

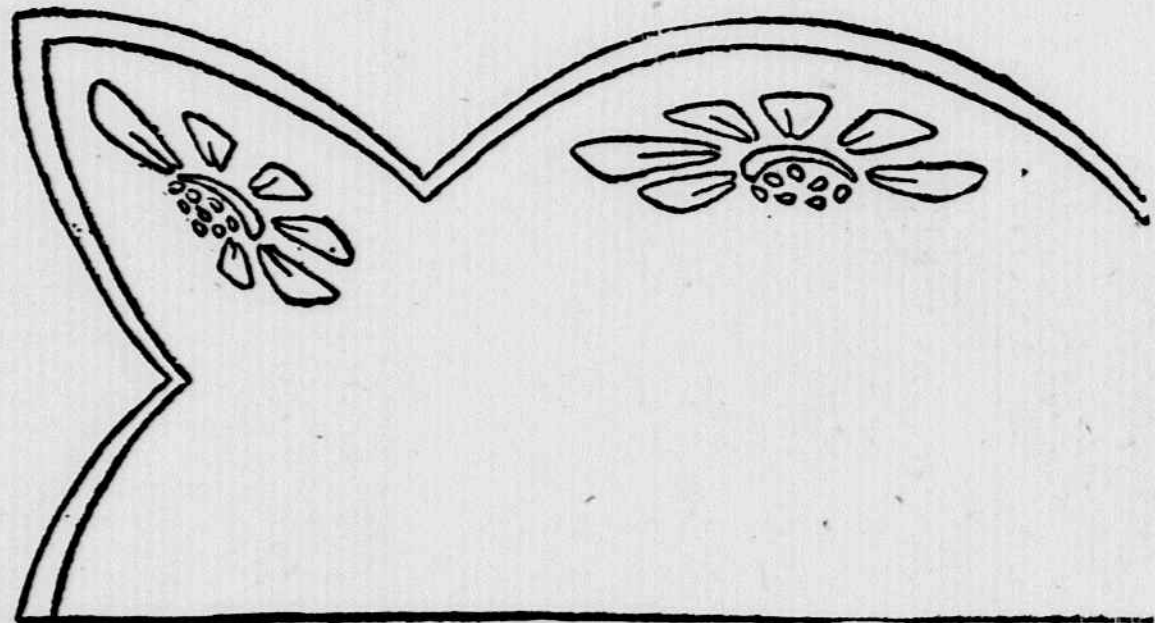
## By ADELAIDE BYRD

Designed by  
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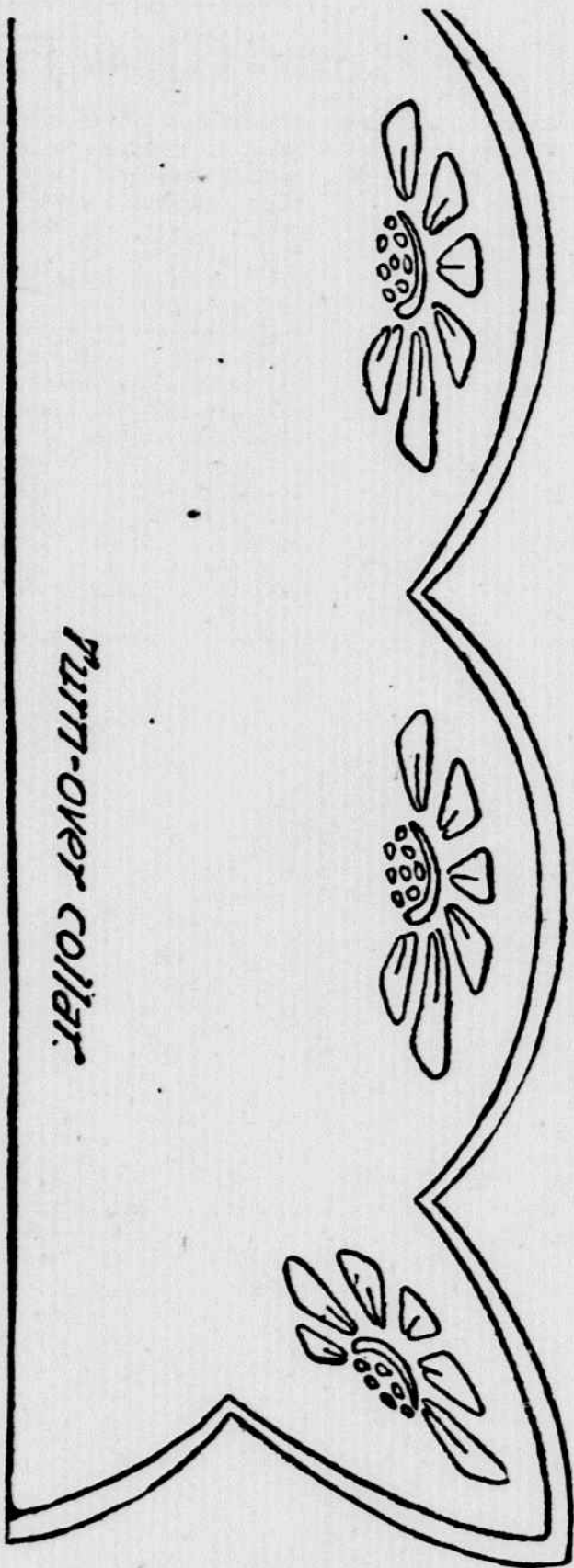
### DESIGN for an EMBROIDERED SHIRTWAIST



Sketch of waist



Cuff



Turn-over collar

Front

#### Damask Linen

DAMASK linen is the best quality for the table centerpiece. It has an evenness that is beautiful, a firmness that is durable and a singular smoothness of weave, owing to its round thread, that allows the working cotton to draw through it with very desirable ease. If there is doubt in the mind of the worker, let her satisfy herself as to the difference by a trial of several other qualities. There is a stiff and "well dressed" linen whose glossy surface shows every needle prick, and in which the needle and cotton, passing through it, leave a distinct hole. This makes it difficult to embroider and a failure as to final result. Sheeting linen has less dressing in it, but is more suitable for suits and blouses. Its uneven weave is not conducive to

smooth embroidery. French and ecclesiastical linen are suitable for embroidering upon, but, while they are very desirable for dresses, they have not the finish that is required for the centerpiece to make it correspond with the satin weave of the best table linen.

Butcher's linen is an interesting quality for embroidery and outlining, but it, too, is not quite correct for the table. No other linen touches the standard for that purpose as does plain white damask linen.

#### The Hand-Crocheted Doily

THESE little table mats are old-fashioned, but so are many things that are good to look at and substantial. These are the exact reasons for their revival. They are crocheted with a fine hook and coarse thread into a closely worked mat, so that they are firm and bold in design.

Usually they are made in sets, the doilies varying from the tumbler size, five inches in diameter, to a ten or twelve-inch size. No new ideas in decoration could be more suitable for use on the antique mahogany table than these little old-time crocheted doilies.

#### Aprons

THERE are aprons for butchers and bakers and candlestick makers. There are sewing aprons and maids' aprons. Indeed, these aprons are a subject of vital importance to the housewife. Not the least interesting among them, and just in time for the spring upheaval, is one for the house-cleaning. There is no use in multiplying the legends of those days of discomfort further than a mere mention of stovepipes taken down and screens put up.

Just here it is that the housecleaner's apron comes in. It is for the matron who herself superintends the work of housecleaning. A blue denim apron, not made the fullest pattern, but slightly gored and cut three-quarter length, with rounded corners. It is a well belted and buttoned round the waist.

Many pockets, with the lower corners cut round, are first hemmed and then stitched to the apron with two rows of machine stitching. The number of pockets will vary according to the needs of the housekeeper, but a certain pocket for the tack hammer, another for tacks and one for brass-headed tacks must be on every apron. Then there is a pocket for the screwdriver and screws, one for the tape measure, one for safety pins, and a string pocket.

Just in the center, depending from the belt, should be a small cushion for the pins and needles. Who can doubt the saving of steps for the matron who has thus provided herself with the necessary outfit?

#### A Useful Gift

THE teacup and saucer spoon have vanished entirely, and it is now quite the accepted thing to work something for your girl friend. A present made for her is far more individual. For the engagement gift some made-at-home embroidery is decidedly the nicest thing.

There is no easier present to decide upon than the one for the coming housewife. She will want very much in a table centerpiece, doily and table cover, not to speak of towel ends and embroidered napkins, sheets and pillow cases. Openwork, like the English and Madeira eyellet, is, perhaps, more dainty for the purpose than the heavier embroideries.

### How to Apply the Design

THERE are two ways to apply this design to the material upon which you wish to work it.

If your material is sheer—such as handkerchief linen, lawn, batiste and the like—the simplest method is to lay the material over the design, and, with a well-pointed pencil, draw over each line.

If your material is heavy, secure a piece of transfer or impression paper. Lay it, face down, upon this; then draw over each line of the paper design with a hard pencil or the point of a steel knitting needle. Upon lifting the pattern and transfer paper you will find a neat and accurate impression of the design upon your material.

There are two points to observe in this simple process, if you would

execute it satisfactorily. One is, see that your material is level—cut and folded by a thread—and that your design is placed upon it evenly at every point.

The second is, when placed accurately, secure the design to the material with thumb tacks or pins so that they cannot slip during the operation.

Transfer paper comes in white, black, blue, red and yellow. I advise the use of the lighter colors when possible, as the black and blue are so liable to crock.

Do not rest your hands or fingers upon any part of the design you are transferring, else the imprint of hand or fingers will be as distinct upon the material as the drawn lines of the design.

IT SEEMS to be almost an assured fact that in a few months we shall have our clothes made with the natural waist line shown once more, and when the metamorphosis comes it will bring with it the renewed popularity of the tailored waist, for womankind will rush back to the dethroned fashion.

Therefore, I am glad to show you today a waist which I am sure will appeal to you, for it includes one of the prettiest fashions that we have ever had—that of the decorated box pleat down the center front. The embroidery is exceptionally graceful and comparatively simple, and when the waist is finished you will have a rich and attractive garment, which you may wear with pride on any shirtwaist occasion. The tiny tucks on the shoulders give added fullness to the waist, and it is not absolutely necessary to run the first set all the way down to the waist line, although this makes a very pretty effect. The second set near the shoulder stops at the bust line.

When you make up the waist you will find it extremely effective to arrange a strap on each shoulder, embroidering on each side of it the scallops that are shown for the box-pleat decorations.

#### STITCHES TO USE

But first I must tell you about the embroidery. The petals of the flowers should be done in solid stitch and in fine mercerized cotton, while the center of the flower, of course, should be done in seed stitch or French knots. The twisted stems; you will be glad to know, will be very effective if done in the ordinary outline or stem stitch, for this will bring out the flowers, the most important part of the design. The trimming of the center box pleat and the collars and cuffs must, of course, be buttonhole stitched, so that the material can be cut away; but the flowers are embroidered in exactly the same way as the flowers on the waist.

I am giving you two different kinds of collars, as you will see—a turn-over collar to be worn with a jabot or four-in-hand tie, and another, a Priscilla collar, to be worn with a Windsor tie.

The cuffs may be fastened to the waist or made separately, as you prefer.

As to the box pleat, make an ordinary pleat down the front of the waist and then fasten under the two edges a strip of the embroidery which is shown separately on the page. This will make a broad double box pleat down the front, with scalloped edges, like the one shown in the little sketch of the waist.

To give the whole a pretty touch, sew all around the scallops on either side of the box pleat, on the cuffs and on the collar a bit of valenciennes lace edging. This should be put on very full and sewn over and over to the edge of the scallops. This effect is shown in the sketch of the waist.

I do not see how any one could fail to be delighted with the finished work, for it is a long time since I have had the opportunity to present to you such a beautiful and practical design.

Piece for each side of box-pleat